REMARKS

Claims 1, 2, 4, 8, 16, 17, 19, 23-31 and 33 are pending. Claims 1, 2, 8, 16 and 24 are amended to clarify the intended scope of the invention. New independent claim 53 has been added to present the subject matter of pending independent claim 23 in a manner that supports direct infringement by a party other than the medical personnel performing the surgical technique. Support for the amendments can be found throughout the specification and figures. No new matter has been added.

Section 103 Rejection

Claims 1, 2, 4, 8, 16, 17, 19, 23-31 and 33 stand rejected as being obvious in light of Belef in view of Pernia. This rejection is respectfully traversed. The Office Action states that Belef teaches an injection tube that is inserted into a partially excavated cavity. Independent claims 1, 2, 8, 16 and 24 have been amended to recite that the cavity has a cross-sectional diameter larger than the cross-sectional diameter of the entrance hole. Because, neither the Belef nor the Pernia reference discloses, teaches or suggests a cavity that has a cross-sectional diameter larger than the cross-sectional diameter of the entrance hole, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection of claims 1, 2, 8, 16 and 24 be withdrawn. Further, dependent claims 4, 17, 19, 23, 25-31 and 33 include the limitations of the independent claims from which they depend and as such Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection of dependent claims 4, 17, 19, 23, 25-31 and 33 also be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing, it is submitted that this application is in condition for allowance.

Favorable consideration and prompt allowance of the application are respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned if the Examiner believes it would

be useful to advance prosecution.

Respectfully submitted,

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